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REDACTED FOR  
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

United States of America,

Plaintiff,

vs.

1. Brian De Jesus Guzman, and  
(Counts 1-10)

2. Paul Santana,  
(Counts 1-10)

Defendants.

No. CR-24-00381-PHX-SHD

**SUPERSEDING  
INDICTMENT**

VIO: 18 U.S.C. § 371  
(Conspiracy)  
Count 1

18 U.S.C. § 1951  
(Hobbs Act Robbery)  
Counts 2, 4, 7, and 9

18 U.S.C. § 1951  
(Attempted Hobbs Act Robbery)  
Count 6

18 U.S.C. § 924(c)(1)(A)  
(Using, Carrying, and Brandishing a  
Firearm During and in Relation to a  
Crime of Violence)  
Counts 3, 5, 8, and 10

**THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:**

**COUNT 1**

Between on or about October 25, 2023, and December 12, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, did knowingly and intentionally agree, combine, and conspire to commit the offense of Hobbs Act Robbery, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951.

**The Means and Method of the Conspiracy**

The means and method employed by Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, and coconspirators to carry out the conspiracy and effect its unlawful objects are as follows:

- a. Between October and December of 2023, Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury robbed multiple AutoZone Auto Parts stores in Maricopa County, employing a similar modus operandi each time.
- b. Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, would arrive at an AutoZone store near closing time, when the store would have extra cash on hand. Defendants then entered the store and ordered the employees or managers at gunpoint to the store office where the store safes were located. In the store office, Defendants demanded cash from the store safes which the employees would provide under threats of force or violence. Defendants also obtained cellular phones and other electronic communication devices from store employees to prevent them from calling police. Following the robberies, Defendants would flee the store and the scene in a vehicle.
- c. Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, and coconspirators wore masks, gloves, and other dark clothing to conceal their identities from the witnesses and surveillance cameras.

**Overt Acts**

In furtherance of the conspiracy, and to effect the objects of the conspiracy, Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, and coconspirators committed, or caused to be committed, the following overt acts, among others, described below:

- a. On or about October 25, 2023, at 11:20 p.m., Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, and one coconspirator traveled to the AutoZone Auto Parts store located at 2601 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85008.

- 1 b. Once there, one of the three entered the store, walked to the rear of the store, and  
2 unlocked to the rear door for the other two robbers to enter. At the time, all three  
3 robbers were wearing masks and other clothing to conceal their identities.
- 4 c. Then, through threats of violence, force, and intimidation, Defendants, BRIAN DE  
5 JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, and at least one coconspirator, forced  
6 the store manager to the office where the store safe was located. There, Defendants,  
7 BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, and at least one  
8 coconspirator stole over \$9,000 from the store safe and fled the store.
- 9 d. On or about November 5, 2023, at 8:20 p.m., Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS  
10 GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, traveled to the AutoZone Auto Parts store  
11 located at 1830 W. Southern Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85041.
- 12 e. There, at least one Defendant brandished a firearm, ordered the employees to the  
13 store safe, and demanded they open it. Through threats of violence, force, and  
14 intimidation, the victims surrendered over \$2,000 in cash to Defendants, BRIAN  
15 DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, as well as their cellular phones.  
16 Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, then fled the  
17 store.
- 18 f. At the time of the robbery, Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL  
19 SANTANA, were wearing masks, gloves, and dark clothing.
- 20 g. On or about November 25, 2023, at 10:40 p.m., Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS  
21 GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, traveled to the AutoZone Auto Parts store  
22 located at 3908 E. Thomas Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85018. In the parking lot of the  
23 store, Defendant, PAUL SANTANA, approached the AutoZone manager victim  
24 while Defendant, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN, waited in the front passenger seat  
25 of the car in which they had arrived. Defendant, PAUL SANTANA, then pointed a  
26 gun at the manager victim and demanded the keys to the store.
- 27 h. Defendant, PAUL SANTANA, was wearing a black mask, gloves, and other dark  
28 clothing at the time. Defendant, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN, was also wearing



1 a black mask and hoodie at the time.

2 i. Defendant, PAUL SANTANA, then ordered the manager victim back into the store  
3 at gunpoint, and the manager victim threw the store keys up into the air and fled.

4 j. In response, Defendant, PAUL SANTANA, discharged three rounds from the  
5 firearm.

6 k. Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, then fled in a  
7 vehicle northbound on 39th Street.

8 l. On or about November 26, 2023, at approximately 12:30 a.m., Defendants, BRIAN  
9 DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, traveled to the AutoZone Auto Parts  
10 store located at 333 E. Southern Avenue, Mesa, Arizona 85210. At the time,  
11 Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, were wearing  
12 black masks, gloves, and other dark clothing.

13 m. Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, exited their  
14 vehicle and one Defendant pointed a firearm at the employees who were leaving the  
15 store after closing. Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL  
16 SANTANA, ordered the employees back into the store at gunpoint, telling them to  
17 disable the store alarm and to take them to the store safe.

18 n. Through threats of violence, force, and intimidation, Defendants, BRIAN DE  
19 JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, took approximately \$750 from the store  
20 safe and the employees' cellular phones and smartwatches. Defendants, BRIAN DE  
21 JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, then fled the store and scene in a vehicle.

22 o. On or about December 12, 2023, at approximately 9:40 p.m., Defendants, BRIAN  
23 DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, traveled to the AutoZone Auto Parts  
24 store located at 14 W. Baseline Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85041. At the time,  
25 Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, were wearing  
26 masks and dark clothing.

27 p. There, Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, entered  
28 the store, ordered one employee victim to the rear of the store at gunpoint, and

1 ordered him to the ground.

2 q. In the rear of the store near the store safe, Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS  
3 GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, demanded that the manager victim begin filling  
4 a backpack with cash from the safe.

5 r. Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, ultimately stole  
6 approximately \$3,200 in cash and other merchandise and fled the store and scene in  
7 a vehicle.

8 All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.

9 **COUNT 2**

10 On or about October 25, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN DE  
11 JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did unlawfully obstruct, delay, and affect  
12 commerce, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1951(b) and the movement of articles and  
13 commodities in such commerce, by robbery as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1951(b), in that  
14 Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did unlawfully take  
15 and obtain personal property consisting of United States currency from the person of or in  
16 the presence of the owner or possessor of the property of AutoZone, located at 2601 E.  
17 McDowell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85008 against his/her will by means of actual and  
18 threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to his/her person and  
19 the property in his/her custody and possession.

20 In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951.

21 **COUNT 3**

22 On or about October 25, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN DE  
23 JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did knowingly use, carry, and brandish a  
24 firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence, and did knowingly possess and  
25 brandish a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence, that is, Hobbs Act Robbery as  
26 alleged in Count 2, a felony prosecutable in a Court of the United States.

27 In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A).  
28

1 **COUNT 4**

2 On or about November 5, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN DE  
3 JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did unlawfully obstruct, delay, and affect  
4 commerce, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1951(b) and the movement of articles and  
5 commodities in such commerce, by robbery as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1951(b), in that  
6 Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did unlawfully take  
7 and obtain personal property consisting of United States currency from the person of or in  
8 the presence of the owner or possessor of the property of AutoZone, located at 1830 W.  
9 Southern Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85041 against his/her will by means of actual and  
10 threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to his/her person and  
11 the property in his/her custody and possession.

12 In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951.

13 **COUNT 5**

14 On or about November 5, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN DE  
15 JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did knowingly use, carry, and brandish a  
16 firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence, and did knowingly possess and  
17 brandish a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence, that is, Hobbs Act Robbery as  
18 alleged in Count 4, a felony prosecutable in a Court of the United States.

19 In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A).

20 **COUNT 6**

21 On or about November 25, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN  
22 DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did attempt to unlawfully obstruct, delay,  
23 and affect commerce, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1951(b) and the movement of articles and  
24 commodities in such commerce, by attempting to commit a robbery as defined in 18 U.S.C.  
25 § 1951(b), in that Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did  
26 attempt to unlawfully take and obtain personal property consisting of United States  
27 currency from the person of or in the presence of the owner or possessor of the property of  
28 AutoZone, located at 3908 E. Thomas Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85018, against his/her will



1 by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future,  
2 to his/her person and the property in his/her custody and possession.

3 In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951.

4 **COUNT 7**

5 On or about November 26, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN  
6 DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did unlawfully obstruct, delay, and affect  
7 commerce, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1951(b) and the movement of articles and  
8 commodities in such commerce, by robbery as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1951(b), in that  
9 Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did unlawfully take  
10 and obtain personal property consisting of United States currency from the person of or in  
11 the presence of the owner or possessor of the property of AutoZone, located at 333 E.  
12 Southern Avenue, Mesa, Arizona 85210 against his/her will by means of actual and  
13 threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future, to his/her person and  
14 the property in his/her custody and possession.

15 In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951.

16 **COUNT 8**

17 On or about November 26, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN  
18 DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did knowingly use, carry, and brandish a  
19 firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence, and did knowingly possess and  
20 brandish a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence, that is, Hobbs Act Robbery as  
21 alleged in Count 7, a felony prosecutable in a Court of the United States.

22 In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A).

23 **COUNT 9**

24 On or about December 12, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN DE  
25 JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did unlawfully obstruct, delay, and affect  
26 commerce, as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1951(b) and the movement of articles and  
27 commodities in such commerce, by robbery as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 1951(b), in that  
28 Defendants, BRIAN DE JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did unlawfully take

1 and obtain personal property consisting of United States currency, one tool set, and one  
2 jump starter, from the person of or in the presence of the owner or possessor of the property  
3 of AutoZone, located at 14 W. Baseline Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85041 against his/her will  
4 by means of actual and threatened force, violence, and fear of injury, immediate and future,  
5 to his/her person and the property in his/her custody and possession.

6 In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1951.

7 **COUNT 10**

8 On or about December 12, 2023, in the District of Arizona, Defendants, BRIAN DE  
9 JESUS GUZMAN and PAUL SANTANA, did knowingly use, carry, and brandish a  
10 firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence, and did knowingly possess and  
11 brandish a firearm in furtherance of a crime of violence, that is, Hobbs Act Robbery as  
12 alleged in Count 9, a felony prosecutable in a Court of the United States.

13 In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 924(c)(1)(A).

14  
15 A TRUE BILL

16 s/  
17 FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY  
Date: April 8, 2025

18 TIMOTHY COURCHANE  
19 United States Attorney  
District of Arizona

20  
21 s/  
PATRICK E. CHAPMAN  
22 Assistant U.S. Attorney